THE

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POLITICAL.

COLONIAL TRADE.

THE arguments upon the subject of the rule which is to establish some permanent authority to which this country may always appeal in her future commercial transactions with belligerent colonies, will soon be revived, and the old controversies of the year 1806-7, will again be agitated with as much warmth and animation as ever. The interests of Great-Britain have evidently driven her into many contradictions and inconsistencies as to the settlement of this rule, and various doctrines have been laid down and deserted by her, whenever she has considered it necessary to her safety, or the aggrandizement of her power, until it has terminated in the unqualified assertion, that the neutral shall enjoy no commerce in time of war, from which he was debarred in time of peace, on the ground that traffick conducted on more liberal principles would essentially be interfering in the war, or injure one belligerent by assisting the other. We think the fallacy of this doctrine is well exposed in the arguments which follow.

The general principle upon which Great-Britain declares against the legality of this trade, is that it tends to enrich the enemy, and that it was not carried on by the neutral in peace. Now, if this be a sufficient ground of condemnation, it must follow that that every trade is illegal into which a neutral enters with a belligerent for the first time during war; and that it is absolutely unlawful to throw any part of the traffick formerly carried on by the belligerent into neutral hands. In opposition to this maxim, however, it will be easy to shew, that upon the breaking out of a war, neutrals have always been permitted to take up many branches of trade that were formerly in the hands of the belligerents, and that their right to carry them on has never been disputed, upon the ground of the security or profit derived therefrom to the enemy.

There are a variety of branches of trade in which this must occur invariably in every war between two maritime and commercial nations. In the first place there is the trade between the two belligerents themselves,

This, of course, in its direct original state, is altogether destroyed and suspended by the war; but if the nations have a mutual and permanent demand for the products of each other's territory, the traffick will infallibly go on as formerly; and the only difference will be, that the trade which was formerly conducted by the ships and sailors of the belligerents, will now fall wholly into the hands of neutrals. This is in all respects a new trade to the neutral, and an addition to his former trade, arising entirely out of the war. It is productive likewise of profit and emolument to the belligerent, and ought therefore to be condemned as unlawful, according to the doctrine of the writer now under consideration. But this is by no means the only new trade into which neutrals are uniformly admitted without challenge in the course of a maritime war: A very considerable part of the general trade of the belligerents passes naturally into their hands. In time of peace a maritime nation carries a great part of its exports to the foreign purchaser, and brings home in its own vessels a great part of its imports. As soon as it engages in war, however it ceases to be profitable for it to do this; the rates of wages and insurance, are necessarily raised; and even where it maintains the superiority at sea, the risk and the expence of transportation become considerably greater than when the same commodities are embarked in neutral bottoms. Accordingly it inevitably happens, that the neutral purchaser finds it for his advantage to come for those goods which the belligerent used formerly to send out to him in her own ships; and the belligerent finds it more convenient that her imports should be brought into her ports by vessels not liable to capture. In this way, a large part of the hostile commerce is naturally transferred to the hands of neutrals, and that for the very purpose of avoiding the risk of capture by an enemy. It was never pretended, however, we believe upon any side, to condemn this new trade as unlawful. Even in our own ports, it is probable there are now more than double the number of neutral vessels that found business there in time of peace; and in those of France and Spain the number is increased tenfold. They there deliver the produce of their own and other foreign countries, and take on board the commodities of the hostile territory, to distribute in all those markets to which they were formerly carried in a great measure by the ships of the enemy which they have superseded. Yet this new war trade between the neutral and the enemy, we do not so much as pretend to find fault with, or to denounce as beyond the rights of neutrality.

The new neutral trade with the colonies, we conceive, however, is not to be distinguished from this new neutral trade with the home ports of the enemy; and the admitted legality of the one is pretty conclusive, therefore, in favour of the legality of the other also. Neutrals were not, perhaps, excluded from the former, during peace, by any positive laws or prohibitions; but they were excluded, in point of fact, as effectual-

ly, by the disadvantages of their situation, and the natural predilection of the belligerent for his own traders. It is equally certain and undeniable, therefore, as in the case of the colonies, that it was a new trade which they acquired in consequence of the war, and that it is destined to revert to the belligerent as soon as peace shall have removed those disadvantages which now give the preference to the neutral. Now, as these are the very circumstances which are pleaded upon as grounds for excluding neutrals from the colony trade, it is obvious that the plea is effectually answered by referrence to this unchallenged new trade with the mother country. It is to no purpose to say, that the innovation here is only in degree, and that the colonial trade is new in kind to the neutral. This is a distinction altogether irrelevant to the matter in dispute. It is a fact as palpable as the transference of her colonial trade, that the whole home trade of France is now gone into the hands of neutrals. By this arrangement she is benefitted, and her enemies disappointed in their hopes of captures and their views of impoverishment, as effectually at least as by the change in her colonial system. If the one be recognized as legal, it does not appear upon what grounds it is possible to impeach the other as contrary to the law of nations.

These cases of the new home trade between neutrals and belligerents generated by the war, and depending upon it for its continuance, appear to us so exactly parallel to that of the colonial trade in question, that it is not necessary to pursue the investigation any further. It is well known, however, that nothing is more common than to relax special prohibitions in behalf of neutrals, upon the breaking out of a war; and that we ourselves, whose necessities in this way cannot be supposed very urgent, have frequently invited them to a share of our trade, by opening free ports abroad, and reducing duties which had been imposed to secure our monopoly at home. We never heard that the new trade, which was opened to the neutrals by these devices, was considered in any quarter as illegal, or that any attempt was ever made by our enemies to make prize of the vessels employed in it.

It thus appears that there is nothing in the analogy of the law of nations as fixed by the uniform practice of maritime countries, which can justify the condemnation of this war trade between the colonies of a belligerent, and the neutral nations in her neighbourhood. On the contrary it appears that, in cases, which, in point of principle, can scarcely be distinguished from that before us, the long established usage of nations has recognized the legality of such intercourse, and confirmed the free enjoyment of it as one of the most undisputed privilgeges of neutrality. A very slight consideration of the equitable principles on which the practice has been founded in those analagous and undisputed cases, will satisfy us that the conclusion may be extended with perfect confidence to that which is now in discussion.

The enemy is clearly benefitted by the admission of neutrals to the

home trade which he carried on himself in time of peace; his commerce is relieved from the pressure of our hostilities; he is made in a great measure independent of our naval superiority; we are disappointed in our hope of captures, and obstructed in our lawful endeavours to bring him to terms by cutting off the sources of his revenue. Why should we not be permitted therefore, to prevent this interference of the neutrals? why is it that we are obliged to walk quietly on the decks of our cruizers, and see thousands of Danes and Americans busily employed in a trade which fills the coffers of our enemy, and covering with their flag a commerce, which, but for this interference, would become the prey of our triumphant navy? The answer is short and obvious; and it is decisive, in our apprehension of the whole controversy. We are are restrained from annoying our enemy by interfering with his trade, from a regard to the neutrals for whose joint profit it is carried on, and whose interest in its continuance is more considerable, and more favoured in the eyes of the great confederation of nations, than our interest in its suppression. This is the ultimate and true reason why a belligerent is not permitted to interrupt that neutral trade with his enemy, by which his hostilities are rendered in some degree inefficient.—The question comes, as we have already intimated it would do, to a balance of advantages and disadvantages; and the law of nations has decided in favour of the neutral in all the branches of the home trade. We are not aware that there are any circumstances by which the balance can be affected, or the decision varied, in the trade of the colonies.

POETRY.

THE poetry of Darwin for a long time attained a degree of celebrity far beyond its merits; and the same taste which ten years ago was so ready to extol and admire it, seems again revived, and Dr. Darwin's works are now frequently quoted, and his language and ingenuity extolled. The Loves of the Triangles, which was written with the professed intention of exposing the absurdities of the Botanick Garden, or Loves of the Plants, renders the design and manner of the Doctor in that work, most eminently ridiculous. To those persons who are inclined to enjoy the scientifick part, which is attempted to be ridiculed, we must recommend the whole poem with notes, in the Anti-Jacobin, but we now take the liberty to extract a few passages in which the glowing style of Darwin in describing scientifick and classical events, is finely satirized. Persons who are in the least acquainted with his style, will acknowledge the resemblance at the first view. It is a caricature, but though the lines are marked very strongly, they do not deviate

from the character they are intended to pourtray. Take the following as a specimen.

LO! where the chimney's sooty tube ascends,
The fair TROCHAIS* from the corner bends!
Her coal-black eyes upturn'd, incessant mark
The eddying smoke, quick flame, and volant spark;
Mark with quick ken, where flashing in between
Her much lov'd *Smoke-Jack* glimmers through the scene;
Mark how his various parts together tend,
Point to one purpose—in one object end:
The spiral *grooves* in smooth meanders flow,
Drags the long *chain*, the polish'd axles glow,
While slowly circumvolves the piece of Beef below:
The conscious fire† with bickering radiance burns,
Eyes the rich joint, and roasts it as it turns.

So youthful HORNER roll'd the roguish eye,
Cull'd the dark plum from out his Christmas pye,
And cried, in self-applause—'How good a boy am I.'

So, the sad victim of domestick spite,
Fair CINDERELLA, past the wintry night,
In the lone chimney's darksome nook immured,
Her form disfigured, and her charms obscured.
Sudden her God-mother, appears in sight,
Lifts the charm'd rod, and chaunts the Mystick Rite;
The chaunted Rite the maid attentive hears,
And feels new ear-rings deck her listening ears;‡

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* *Trochais*—The Nymph of the Wheel, supposed to be in love with SMOKE-JACK.

† *The conscious fire*—The Sylphs and Genii of the different Elements have a variety of innocent occupations assigned them; those of FIRE are supposed to divert themselves with writing the name of KUNKEL in Phosphorus. See ECONOMY of VEGETATION.

'Or mark with shining letters KUNKEL's name
'In the slow *Phosphor's* self-consuming flame.'

‡ *Listening ears.*—Listening, and therefore peculiarly suited to a pair of diamond ear-rings. See the description of NEBUCHADNEZAR, in his transformed state.

Nor Flattery's self can pierce his *pendant ears.*

In poetical diction, a person is said to '*breathe the* BLUE *air*,' and to '*drink the* HOARSE *wave*!'—not that the colour of the sky, or the noise of the water has any reference to drinking or breathing, but because the poet obtains the advantage of thus describing his subject under a *double relation*, in the same manner in which material objects present themselves to our different senses at the same time.

Whilst 'midst her towering tresses, aptly set,
Shines bright with quivering glance, the smart Aigrette ;
Brocaded silks the splendid dress complete,
And the Glass Slipper grasps her fairy feet.
Six cock-tail'd Mice* transport her to the Ball,
And liveried Lizards wait upon her call.

So thy dark Arches, LONDON *Bridge*, bestride
Indignant Thames, and part his angry tide.
There oft,—returning from those green retreats,
Where fair *Vauxhalia* decks her sylvan seats ;—
Where each spruce Nymph, from City Compters free,
Sips the froth'd Syllabub, or fragrant Tea ;
While with slic'd Ham, scrap'd Beef, and burnt Champagne,
Her 'prentice Lover soothes his amorous pain ;—
There oft, in well trimm'd wherry, glide along
Smart beaux and giggling bells, a glittering throng ;
Smells the tar'd rope—with undulation fine
Flaps the loose sail—the silken awnings shine ;
' Shoot me the Bridge !'—the vent'rous Boatmen cry ;
' Shoot me the Bridge !'—the exulting Fare† reply.
Down the steep fall the headlong waters go,
Curls the white foam, the breakers roar below.
The veering helm the dextrous steersman stops,
Shifts the thin oar, the fluttering canvas drops ;

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* *Cocktail'd Mice*—COCTILIBUS MURIS. *Ovid.*—There is reason to believe that the *murine*, or *mouse* species were anciently much more numerous than at the present day. It appears from the sequel of the Line, that SEMIRAMIS surrounded the *City of Babylon* with a number of these animals.

Dicitur altam
COCTILIBUS MURIS *cinxisse Semiramis Urbem.*

It is not easy at present to form any conjecture with respect to the end, whether of ornament or of defence, which they could be supposed to answer. I should be inclined to believe, that in this instance the mice were dead, and that so vast a collection of them must have been furnished by way of tribute, to free the country of these destructive animals. This superabundance of the *murine* race, must have been owing to their immense fecundity, and to the comparatively tardy reproduction of the *Feline* species. The traces of this disproportion are to be found in the early History of every Country. The ancient Laws of *Wales* estimate a CAT at the price of as much corn as would be sufficient to cover her, if she were suspended by the tail with her fore feet touching the ground.—See HOWEL DHA.—In Germany it is recorded that an army of Rats, a larger animal of the *Mus* tribe, were employed as the Ministers of Divine Vengeance against a Feudal Tyrant; and the Commercial Legend of our own WHITTINGTON, might probably be traced to an equally authentick origin.

† *Fare.*—A person, or a number of persons, conveyed in a hired vehicle by land or water.

Then with clos'd eyes, clench'd hands, and quick-drawn breath,
Darts at the central arch, nor heeds the gulf beneath.
Full 'gainst the pier the unsteady timbers knock,
The loose planks starting own the impetuous shock;
The shifted oar, dropt sail, and steadied helm,
With angry surge the closing waters whelm—
Laughs the glad Thames and clasps each fair one's charms
That screams and scrabbles in his oozy arms.
Drench'd each smart garb, and clogg'd each struggling limb,
Far o'er the stream the Cocknies sink or swim;
While each badg'd boatman,* clinging to his oar,
Bounds o'er the buoyant wave, and climes the applauding shore.

So, towering Alp!† from thy majestick ridge
Young Freedom gaz'd on Lodi's blood-stain'd *Bridge;*
Saw, in thick throngs conflicting Armies rush,
Ranks close on ranks and squadrons squadrons crush;
Burst in bright radiance through the battle's storm,
Wav'd her broad hands, display'd her awful form;
Bade at her feet regenerate nations bow,
And twin'd the wreath round Bonaparte's brow.
Quick with new lights, fresh hopes, and alter'd zeal,
The slaves of despots dropp'd the blunted steel,
Exulting Victory own'd her favourite child,
And freed Liguria clapp'd her hands and smiled.

The expected invasion of England was a subject which at that time agitated all classes of the community. Good politicians saw in such an attempt by France, its inevitable failure, and by almost a necessary consequence, the brighter glory of Great-Britain, and the general safety of the continent of Europe. It therefore became a subject of ridicule to the wits of the kingdom, whilst the ministry found it for their interest to keep up the alarm; it is unfortunate, that the coalition on the continent, which so materially changed the aspect of affairs, had ever been formed, since nothing could be imagined so advantageous to the general cause, as the probable issue of the invasion.

Nor long the time ere Britain's shores shall greet
The warrior sage, with gratulation sweet;

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* *Badg'd Boatmen.*—Boatmen sometimes wear a *badge*, to distinguish them; especially those who belong to the Watermen's Company.

† *Alp* or *Alps.*—A ridge of mountains which separate the north of Italy from the south of Germany. They are evidently primeval and volcanick, consisting of granite, loadstone, and basalt, and several other substances, containing animal and vegetable recrements, and affording numberless undoubted proofs of the infinite antiquity of the earth, and of the consequent falsehood of the Mosaick Chronology.

Eager to grasp the wreath of Naval Fame,
The Great Republick plans the *Floating Frame!*
O'er the huge plane, gigantick Terror stalks,
And counts with joy the close compacted balks:
Of young-ey'd Massacres the Cherub crew,
Round their grim chief the mimick task pursue;
Turn the stiff screw,* apply the strengthening clamp,
Drive the long bolt, or fix the stubborn cramp,
Lash the reluctant beam, the cable splice,
Join the firm dove-tail with adjustment nice,
Through yawning fissures urge the willing wedge,
Or give the smoothing adze a sharper edge.
Or group'd in Fairy bands, with playful care,
The unconscious bullet to the furnace bear;
Or gaily tittering, tip the match with fire,
Prime the big mortar, bid the shell aspire;
Applaud, with tiny hands, and laughing eyes,
And watch the bright destruction as it flies.

Now the fierce forges gleam with angry glare—
The wind-mill† waves his woven wings in air;
Swells the proud sail, the exulting streamers fly,
Their nimble fins unnumber'd paddles ply:
Ye soft airs breathe, ye gentle billows waft,
And, fraught with Freedom bear the expected Raft!

GENERAL WILKINSON,

THE commander of the armies of the United States, has been for some time, placed in a most odious situation; the publick hate and detest, and have hitherto imbibed no other sensation in

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* *Turn the stiff screw.*—The harmony and imagery of these lines are imperfectly imitated from the following exquisite passage in the Economy of Vegetation.

Gnomes, as you now dissect, with hammers fine,
The Granite Rock, the nodul'd Flint calcine;
Grind with strong arm, the circling Chertz betwixt,
Your pure Ka—o—lins and Pe—tunt—ses mixt.

CANTO 2D. L. 297.

† *The wind-mill.*—This line affords a striking instance of the sound conveying an echo to the sense. I would defy the most unfeeling reader to repeat it over, without accompanying it by some corresponding gesture, imitative of the action described.—EDITOR.

regard to him. That so much ignorance, vanity, and pomposity, should be combined with so much sycophancy, tyranny, and oppressive intolerance, would produce emotions of the most determined disgust, was natural; and not having any great or agreeable quality about him to relieve the picture, it was natural that the publick should generally shudder at the idea of supporting a man at the head of the armies of the United States, so generally detestable in his character. But where they formerly hated, they now despise, he now is placed upon a pedestal before the publick with the blister of cowardice festering upon his forehead. How long such a blustering bully, such a sycophant of power, such a tyrannical master, such a bag of bad wind, will be suffered to offend the publick, by his conduct, we hope may soon be determined. We feel for the honour of the United States, for the reputation of the army, and for the feelings of those who may be placed immediately under him, when General Adair comes publickly forward with a yet uncontradicted and unrestrained epithet. Wilkinson may yet clear up his character in this odious particular, and it will then rest with the community 'to despise him somewhat less than they do at present.' But until this is done it is certainly not doubtful that government should scrupulously avoid giving him employment, and if he cannot be removed without resorting to a court-martial, he yet may only hold a nominal rank, and some worthy, brave, and intelligent officer fill the station with honour, which has so long been most shamefully disgraced. The following conclusion to General Adair's communication to the publick, will afford a specimen of the contemptuous style in which the commander of the United States armies has been treated.

'Low and contemptible as this man has stood for some time past in the opinion of his countrymen, as well as myself, I would not have stooped to invite him to a meeting had it not been that he is still permitted to wear the coat of a soldier and wield the sword of my country. Nor would I have believed that he could have been stimulated to meet a call of honour from any man, had it not been for his late vapouring and blustering as a duellist in the Atlantick states, added to his own declaration to that effect. I have now done with him in this way, firmly believing that he is a COWARD, and that to apply any other weapon of

chastisement to him more formidable than a horsewhip, would but disgrace the arm making the application.

JOHN ADAIR.'

If a man in Wilkinson's situation can sustain this shock upon his character, and from a general too, it will be time to resort to some other tribunal than publick opinion to determine the value of a soldier's reputation.

MR. J. RANDOLPH.

Mr. John Randolph has commenced his career of this session of Congress with some most violent and justly deserved philippicks against the last administration. He offers the meed of praise to Mr. Madison for so accommodating our differences with Great-Britain, as to restore our commercial intercourse. This is all very praise-worthy. But Mr. Randolph relies too much on the individual supremacy of his talents, ever to have great influence in a deliberative assembly. He never acts in concert with any party, he is a friend on one day and an adversary on the next: the consequence must inevitably be, that he will never find the doors of honour and confidence opened to his entrance. Mr. Randolph obtained some celebrity in Great-Britain, by his determined and powerful opposition to our ridiculous non-importation laws. Mr. Stephens, the celebrated author of that eloquent, though fallacious work, of 'War in Disguise,' undertook to publish one of his speeches with comments; the Edinburgh Reviewers have also noticed him, and their notice is a passport to distinction. Mr. Randolph seems too conscious of the fame and celebrity, which accident rather than very great powers has gained for him, and presuming upon this extrinsically excited reputation, he appears to act for himself alone, without seeming willing to be considered as belonging to either of the parties into which the country is divided. Both claim him, but in reality, he is not the smallest service to either. What he erects for the federalists to-day, he overturns to-morrow; though we have understood whatever personal attachments he entertains, are generally on the federal side. This notice is given here, to shew that too much reliance ought not to be placed on the weight of Mr. Randolph in our favour, and that not the small-

est disadvantage would result to us if he were hanging upon the opposite side of the balance; he is too buoyant to cause it to preponderate.

GOVERNOUR GORE.

The circumstances of honour attending the initiation of his excellency to his new office, must have been highly gratifying to his feelings both as a man and a patriot.

The talents of Mr. Gore, are displayed in his first speech, which whilst it is conciliatory in manner and sentiment, maintains with equal ability, propriety and dignity, the necessity of proposing some expedient by which the commerce of the country may be hereafter exempt from the recurrence of similar dangers to those which it experienced during the last year. He maintains the propriety of the legal opposition of Massachusetts, at that time, to the embargo law, unconstitutional in its provisions, and proved utterly ridiculous in fact, from the necessity of its sudden repeal. If the non-intercourse law has been the instrument which has occasioned all the advantages which the nation now experiences, the opposition of the Massachusetts legislature to the embargo laws last year should not surely be condemned, since congress in consequence of that opposition, stumbled upon a measure which has turned out accidentally to be thus favourable in our negociations.

The praise bestowed by his excellency upon Mr. Madison is certainly well deserved, and we hope it is only the commencement of the harvest of reputation which the president will gather from his country, for his deviations from the path of policy pursued by his predecessor in office.

'I trust gentlemen,' he remarks, 'that we may sincerely and heartily congratulate each other, and every individual in our country, that the political year commences with the promise of reviving commerce, and the restoration of our citizens to the exercise of their faculties, and their industry, and to the right of acquiring and possessing property, asserted in our declaration of rights to be essential and unalienable. We have great reason to indulge the hope of realizing these views, from the prompt and amicable disposition, with which, it is understood, the present federal administration met the conciliatory overtures of Great-

Britain : a disposition which is entitled to, and will certainly receive the hearty approbation of every one, who sincerely loves the peace and prosperity of the nation.

'While we sincerely rejoice at the prospect laid open to the United States of returning prosperity and plenty, this commonwealth has great reason for self gratulation, on the patience and firmness displayed by her citizens under privations the most painful, and restrictions the most irreconcilable to the spirit of freemen. While the acts, enforcing these privations and restrictions, were submitted to by individuals, with a resignation, that evinced the most exemplary love of order, and respect for the constituted authorities of the nation, the wisdom and temperate firmness displayed by the Commonwealth, in their Legislature, their persevering attachment to the union, their correct estimate of their own rights, and the prudent and constitutional measures for their relief must always redound to its highest honour.'

The observations on the treasury department prove Mr. Gore to have properly considered the importance of the trust he has assumed, and the judicious expedient he has proposed as a check upon future treasurers, is an evidence of the practical talents of his excellency, in the fiscal operations of the state.

'We are,' says he, 'seriously admonished by the circumstances in which the treasury was left by the predecessor of the present Treasurer, that the checks contained in the system were not sufficient to secure the community against unfaithfulness in an officer. Several other states, prior to the revolution, suffered frequent losses by a defect in this department of their government. In altering their state constitutions they thought to remedy the evil, by assigning the appointment of their Treasurer to the Legislature ; the result has shown this remedy not to be effectual, and in several instances, they have altered their system, by adding to the officers entrusted with the care of the revenue, one, in the character of comptroller.

'Should the Legislature turn their attention, to the providing further security in this department, this mode may not be altogether unworthy their notice.

'The regulations of such an office might operate as checks on the Treasurer, by rendering the Comptroller's sanction necessary to a settlement of all accounts, to the payment, and receipts of all monies, to, or by the Treasurer, and to drawing the same from

the Bank, where by law it is kept. A system that should afford in the Comptroller's office, a particular account with each of the debtors and creditors of the state, and also an exact account with the treasurer, which would at all times, exhibit precisely the balance of his account, might be found to contain greater security against misapplication of the publick money, than that under which our pecuniary concerns have been managed.'

The course of remark which his excellency pursues in regard to party spirit, and personal animosity we should imagine would cause the Patriot and Chronicle newspapers to blush for the base innuendoes, the foul insinuations and the false conclusions with which even *their* columns have been disgraced. Let the editors of those papers read the following paragraph, and then let them asperse Mr. Gore and charge him again with being in British pay or British interest, if they have sufficient audacity.

'To adopt a rule, that no man is to be selected for office, unless he be of the particular sect, or party of those, who administer the government, or subscribe to their political creed, is to establish a principle, not only not recognized by, but directly repugnant to the constitution. It is moreover highly unjust to the people, as it narrows the choice for office, and may frequently exclude from their service, the purest integrity, the highest capacities, and best dispositions. It is considering government as instituted not for the *common good*, but for the exclusive advantage of an association or party of men.'

REVIEW OF AMES's WORKS.

A Series of numbers have appeared in the Patriot newspaper, which are entitled 'a Review of the Works of Fisher Ames;' but instead of candid controversy on principles and sentiments, we are amused with party insinuations and personal allusions, instead of a Review of Mr. Ames' works, it is an appeal from his writings, his personal views and feelings. Views and feelings, however, for which his life, and not his writings are supposed to furnish an authority; but views and feelings which neither his life nor writings can afford any justification to the author of the review in assuming as facts. When the numbers are closed, it may be deemed proper to expose the probable motives of the au-

thor of them, the fallacy of the arguments, and virulence of the insinuations he employs to effect the object which he secretly expects to accomplish.

SILVA.

In the fourteenth number of the Ordeal, we took occasion to ridicule the silliness and insipidity with which the department of Silva, in the Monthly Anthology, is so frequently demeaned. These peculiarities are the more remarkable, since it is understood that the department in which they are found is filled every month by the society of gentlemen who superintend the whole work, and who really have frequently displayed much elegant literature, and much acuteness of remark, in the conduct of it. Whether this literary society ought or ought not to farther the pigmean and ricketty brats which scramble about in the Silva, the ridicule which they excite will not be diminished from any such adventitious considerations. A society of literary men imposes upon the mind; but even such authority cannot impose the following nonsense upon the world, for either wit, learning, or important information.

A LONG INVITATION.

"Mr. Bourgoin, French Minister in Portugal, was removed to Hamburg On his arrival there he found an invitation to a dinner in Lisbon, which he had forgotten to answer, but he had time to write by post, that it was out of his power to accept it."

It may, to be sure, be very important to the world that Mr. Bourgoin was invited to dinner in Lisbon, and more extraordinary that he could not dine in that city, when he happened to be in Hamburgh; but the importance resulting from these circumstances sink into mere insignificance, when compared with the wit of the next anecdote; which is equally witty and *true*.

LEDYARD.

"This celebrated traveller, who was a citizen of Connecticut, was sent by Capt. Cook to explore a river on the coast of Kamschatka. He embarked in a canoe with only three companions.

These were the Bible, Ovid's Metamorphoses, and a bottle of brandy."

Those of our readers who have been impressed with the wonders, which these sapient paragraphs record, will find their sensations not diminished on perusing the next specimen of profundity.

A PRUDENT MAGISTRATE.

'A vessel arrived at a port in Portugal from Marseilles. A strict quarantine was imposed on all vessels coming from the Levant, on account of the plague. The *diembargador* ordered the ship into quarantine. 'But sir, I come from Marseilles.' 'Well, that is in the Levant; you must go into quarantine.' 'Why, sir, only look at the map. I will show you that it is not.' The map was produced; the captain pointed at Marseilles, and then shewed him what was called the Levant. The judge, placing his thumb on Marseilles and then stretching his fore finger to the Levant, exclaimed, 'Poh! Poh! They are close together, it is all the same thing; you must perform quarantine.'

The two following paragraphs, and particularly the query at the conclusion of the second, deserve to be connected with the wisdom which has preceded them.

DIPLOMATICK CAUTION.

'During the time that the Marquis de Pombal governed Portugal, he was much surprised at receiving no despatches from his minister in Sweden, though he had often written to him. At length, sending a courier to St. Petersburg, he ordered him to go to Stockholm, to enquire the reason of the minister. The ambassadour was much surprised, said that he had written regularly once a week; he went in consequence with the courier to the post office, to know why they had not been forwarded. The postmaster knew nothing about it, but said he always sent forward all letters. He told them, however he had a number of letters which he had not been able to forward, because he could not discover the direction. Taking them into another room, he shewed the packets, which proved to be the ambassador's, and which for greater security were *directed* as well as written *in cyphers*.'

PHILIP IV.

A man was brought before Philip IVth. of Spain, accused of having slandered his majesty. It was a man whom the king had never known or had any connection with: 'Let him be dis-

missed,' said Philip, 'he must be a madman; no one in his senses would speak ill of a *king* who had done him no injury.

Query. How many mad men would that monarch have found in the United States?"

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

21 Memoir concerning the Commercial Relations of the United States, with England. By Citizen Talleyrand. To which is added, An Essay upon the advantages to be derived from New Colonies, in the existing circumstances. By the same author. Boston, T. B. Wait, & Co.

22 An Essay on the History of Civil Society. By Adam Ferguson, LL. D. Boston, Hastings, Etheridge & Bliss.

23 A Discourse delivered before the Lieutenant Governour, the Council, and the Houses composing the Legislature of Massachusetts, on the day of the General Election, May 31, 1809. Boston, Russel & Cutler.

24 An Address delivered before the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society, June 2, 1809. By Alexander Townsend, Esq. Boston, Russel & Cutler.

25 Solemn Reasons for declining to adopt the Baptist Theory and Practice, in a series of letters to a Baptist Minister. By Noah Worcester, A. M. Pastor of a Church in Thornton.

26 The New Testament, in an improved version, upon the basis of Archbishop's Newcome's new translation, with a corrected text, and notes critical and explanatory. Published by a society for promoting christian knowledge and the practice of virtue, by the distribution of books. From the London edition. Boston, W. Wells. 1809.

27 A vindication of a discourse on the death of Doctor Priestly, in reply to the Rev. John Pye Smith, in letters to a friend. By Thomas Belsham. To which is annexed the discourse on the death of Dr. Priestly. By the same author. Boston, J. Cushing.

28 The Military Instructor, or New System of European Exercise and Drill, as now practised by the British army, according to General Dundas; and comparative notes between the same, and the Regulations for the Militia of the United States, according to the System of Baron Steuben; clearly demonstrating the superiority of the former over the latter, and the facility with which it can be obtained. In three Parts. Recommended for the adoption of the Militia of the United States. By E. Gillispy. Boston, J. Cushing.